

## FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN NEGRO

## Address by Bishop Strange Before the Church Congress in New York.

The Problem Not to be Settled by Amalgamation or Deportation—Negroes are Increasing in Actual Numbers and Very Slowly Decreasing in Proportion to the White Population—Movements of Population The Average Southern Opinion. View of the Average Northerner. An Appeal for Patience and Sympathy.

The Afro-American has been free to work out his own salvation for more than forty years.

What will be his position and condition after forty or fifty or a hundred years more?

Some say that but few of them will be here in America then, that the race as a whole will be colonized into some other countries of the earth.

I do not think so. Why? Because attempts at colonization have been made and have failed. They have not proved successful in Liberia, in Haiti, or in Mexico. Emigrant ships sailed out of Baltimore with but part of their possible human cargo, when slavery in America was the alternative; and ships would probably go out of Baltimore with even less of a cargo in these days of freedom. Face frankly the difficulties of transporting 9,000,000 people away from America! It were a difficult task for a willing people; but these people are not willing. With many, their local attachment is strong; the ignorant are too suspicious to go; the intelligent look to Mexico, to Liberia and to Haiti, and say, "Why should we?"

Others say the negro as such will slowly disappear by amalgamation, by the absorption of the negro into the larger mass of white. I think not. Why? Because the facts of experience are against it. During and shortly after the Civil war, such public men as Dr. Croly, Theodore Tilton and Wendell Phillips openly predicted and advocated amalgamation. No public man, I think, would do so today. The white people of the north do not desire it for themselves; the white people of the south are opposed to it. Dr. DuBois, of Atlanta University, a thoughtful and scholarly negro, has taken a position in his pamphlet, "The Conservation of Races," which every thinking man of the south will uphold; that the negro as a race must grow and develop in America, and as a race make his contribution to the civilization of the world. After forty years of liberty while the Caucasian races are blending in America, the negro race is as distinct as in the days of slavery; there is more decided antipathy between the common man of the two races now than then; hardly any intermarriage; and even the illicit relation of the sexes between white and black is growing less and less frequent in the south. Every man with the smallest per cent of negro blood is classed as a negro and forced to associate with him; and so, there is no starting point for amalgamation or for the desire for it. I think the dominant sentiment of America—north and south—white and black—agrees with the statement made in my hearing by Dr. Booker T. Washington last September in New York: "This problem is to be settled neither by amalgamation nor by deportation."

Mr. F. L. Hoffman, the careful and conscientious author of "Race Traits and Tendencies of the American Negro," tells us that this serious problem in our American life will settle itself by the extinction of the negro. He shows by statistics that the birth rate of the negro race is decreasing and that the death rate is increasing. How, then, can we get away from the conclusion that the race is doomed, and that, in process of time it will die out? And yet, and yet, the proportion of negroes to the whole population of the United States was in 1860 14.9 per cent.; in 1890, in spite of the tremendous white immigration into our country, it had fallen only to 11.9 per cent.; and 1900 to 11.6 per cent. In 1860, in the eleven southern states and in Maryland, Kentucky and the District of Columbia—all the states which at that time had one-fifth or more of the population colored—the negroes made up 36.7 per cent. of the whole population of the states; in 1890 they composed 33.8 per cent.; and in 1900 36.1 per cent. Thus we see that facts and figures compel us to confess or rejoice in the fact that the negro is to be with us here in America as a race, increasing in actual numbers, and very slowly decreasing in proportion to the white population.

Now, let us see where these negroes are, and what movements of population among them we can discover. Ninety per cent are in the above mentioned southern states, making up 36 per cent of their population; the other 10 per cent are scattered over the rest of the United States, averaging about 2 per cent of the total population. These relative proportions have been nearly the same for forty years. But, while not changing these general ratios, two decided movements of population have been going on for more than twenty years—first a large number of negroes have been moving constantly from the country to the southern towns and cities; and, second, a small but steady stream of Afro-Americans has been running from the southern to the large northern cities. Washington's colored population increased for the ten years between 1890 and 1900 from 75,000 to 86,000; Baltimore's from 67,000 to 79,000; Philadelphia's from 49,000 to 66,000; New York's from 23,000 to 60,000.

Keeping these basal facts in view, let us repeat our first question, "What will be the future of the negro in America?"

The answer of Hoffman, the statistician, and of the average honest, intelligent white man of the south is practically the same: uncertain, gloomy, hopeless. The statistician, gathering together his figures and considering his averages, tells us that statistics do not lie; the southern white man brought face to face with the vast mass of the negroes, looking at them as a whole, says: "We are with the negroes day by day; we know them; and we see no improvement in them. The negroes are leaving the country and are herding together in the cities, where they are increasing in vice and crime and immorality. Out in the country districts away from the whites, almost entirely to themselves, they are shiftless and immoral; they will not work steadily; they have little regard for the marriage tie. With many idle negroes all around us, servants and farm laborers are harder to get and less efficient when we do get them than formerly. We see negroes on the chain gang, in the courts and jails and penitentiaries. We read of and know of horrible inhuman crimes committed by them; we are afraid for our women to go anywhere in the country alone. The idea of our association on equal terms with them is simply absurd. The negro is not a white man with a black skin. The education they have had seems to do them no good; it spoils a good laborer, and doesn't make an efficient man. We remember the fearful condition of things when we were under negro government, and we look over to Haiti to see what a country will become when ruled entirely by negroes. How can we let them vote on equal terms and yet preserve our civilization? God knows. He may have something good for them but we cannot see it."

The average honest, intelligent northern man, starting with the theoretic assumption that the negro is a man, a man like himself only with a black skin, long held in slavery and still much restricted in his efforts towards progress, has been more optimistic in his answer. "Throw away this race antipathy," says he, "educate the negro, treat him like a man and a brother, and he will take his place as any other American citizen." To this northern man has come from time to time an educated, intelligent, upright negro, showing himself to be a man just like any other man. He has talked with Dr. Washington and Dr. DuBois. He has been maybe, to Hampton and has consulted General Armstrong and Dr. Frissell. He learns that the negro illiteracy has been reduced in twenty years from 70 per cent. to 47 per cent., that in many parts of the north and of the south the colored people are buying land and building homes, accumulating property, making doctors, lawyers, teachers and preachers. "Why all this talk about social equality, this dread of negro domination? The negro is just like any other man; give him a chance and he will take care of himself, and be a blessing to the whole land."

Which view is correct? Both. Which view is correct? Neither. Both are correct from their own standpoint; and yet neither one is correct, because he sees only one side of the shield, does not consider all of the facts. The southern man looks at the mass, at the negro at his worst, and does not see the few rising up from the multitude, giving promise of what can be done. From the social and political conditions, in which the southern white man has been living for the past thirty years, he does not see these exceptional negroes, cannot know them, unless he takes the trouble to search them out.

The northern man looks at the few exceptional negroes, and does not see and realize the low and wretched condition of the whole.

To show how natural and yet how incorrect are these partial opinions, the average Northern man who comes to live in the South takes the Southern view; and not only that, but the average northern man who, while still in the North, comes in contact with the mass of the negroes moving to the Northern cities, and who takes the trouble to inform himself of the general conditions in the South, agrees with the Southern man. They are not as hopeful now of the solution of this problem as they were thirty years ago. And on the other hand, the few earnest, thoughtful, far-seeing men of both North and South—and their numbers are growing—are coming to take something like the position with which the Northern man started—that is, that the negro is a man hampered by conditions. But, they see and declare that those conditions are not only in the negro surroundings, but in his blood, that they are not only here today, but that they go back of the present, go back of slavery, go back across the waters to thousands of years in Africa. And these men ask from North and South, white and black, patience, discrimination, sympathy.

The statistician takes the average of the negro race; and truly it is discouraging; but what does the statistician know of the rising few, who refuse to be judged by the average, and point out by their own lives to the possibilities of their race? If we would see the future of the negro truly, we must make a composite picture, eliminating the false and acknowledging the true in each view.

The negroes are divided more decidedly than any other race in our land into two distinct classes, though individuals cross and recross the line; and there are many, very many, hard to classify. The one class is made up of the few upright, intelligent, healthy, industrious, earnest men and women, who are enjoying sweet and pure homes, accumulating property, filling professional and mercantile positions, showing their fellows how to labor with thrift and dignity. This class, while few comparatively, is steadily increasing in numbers and influence.

The other class is composed of the many who are living apart in the country or herded together in the city; lazy, diseased, restless, vicious, criminal, immoral, crowding the poor houses, the courts and the jails. This class, while very large in numbers, is slowly decreasing relatively by the loss from above of its better elements, who are moving into the first class, and by the loss from below of its worst elements, who are steadily falling out under nature's rough and ready punishments of disease and death.

It seems to me that, under the working of nature's great stern law of the "survival of the fittest" in the struggle for existence, a large section of the negro race is going to be simply sloughed off in nature's curative processes. And then, again, I see under that other law of nature, just as great and far more beautiful, "the struggle for the life of others," that the negroes who are left will be lifted up and forwarded by the Christian sympathy and help, which will come to them in ever-increasing force from their own black brothers and from the God-fearing and man-loving whites of the North and of the South.

What, then, shall be the future of the American negro? My answer is hopeful, though it comes from the South, though it comes from one who agrees with the social and political positions which have been taken by the South. My answer is hopeful, in the face of the published writings of Hugo Münsterberg and of James Bryce. My answer agrees practically with that of Dr. Washington in his wise and timely little book, called "The Future of the American Negro"; and with me agree an increasing number of the leading white men of both North and South. We believe so because we look at the facts on all sides, because we think that "a man's man for a that"; because we believe in justice and intelligence of the white men of the South; because we trust in God. Let me quote from Mr. Edgar Gardner Murphy's wise and timely book, "The Present South": "The process upward—although the story of a smaller number—must be borne clearly and steadily in mind. The failure of great masses of men—in the total life of any race—must not obscure the achievements of the few. Indeed, to the historians of the great ventures and experiments of civilization, the achievements of the few are of more significance than the failures of the many. For achievement—even though upon a small scale—is a demonstration of possibilities. It gives a starting point for constructive theories and policies; it gives authority to anticipation."

We admit that the great mass of the negro race has not improved, has grown worse rather than better; but we say, "Study the negro in Africa, review the conditions in this country since 1865, and what else could you expect? We admit that the prejudice and antipathy of the average young white and black man against each other are more intense and bitter than forty years ago, but again we say, "Learn the real facts and think over them; and what else could you expect?" Then we ask you to study more clearly the rising progressive few, who give us promise of what the many may come to be and do. We go to Hampton, Tuskegee and Atlanta university; we see the fine work going on there, and we are told by those who know that of the hundreds who go forth every year from these centers of Christian thought and labor, more than 90 per cent. make a success of their lives in meeting the conditions of our complex civilization; that many of them are going back to the country to teach the common public schools, to buy lands for themselves, and to train the people by precept and example into a more intelligent and productive tillage of the soil. We know that here and there throughout our broad South land, in both city and country, negro men and women are leading clean lives, building homes, making an honest living, buying property, teaching and preaching high things, practicing successfully both law and medicine. The negroes are looking less to politics and more to honest industry for progress and happiness; and they are the more ready to listen to true sympathetic white men, even in political matters, where they can combine to vote for the best men in local politics. We are all admitting that much of the negro education has been one-sided and impractical, and we are striving to make education more truly training for life. Yes, and the wisest of our statesmen and public school superintendents are telling us that the trouble with the negro has been too little education rather than too much; and they are persuading our people to give them more and truer education. The best negroes are holding to their race purity, asking the whites for justice and sympathy, and urging their fellow negroes to morality, energy and honesty. The best Southern whites are holding to their race purity, and are pleading successfully with their fellows for justice, sympathy for their black fellowmen. They are talking with the negroes on matters of importance to both races; and they are according to them hearty congratulations for their advance and progress in any department of life. We are asking the men of the North to stop political pressure, and to give to us patience and sympathy; and they are listening to us more and more. If Congress will make wise and generous appropriation for the true education of the negro, these hopeful tendencies will rapidly grow into great, working, progressive facts.

What, then, shall be the position and condition of the negro in the Southern States? Judging the future by the past, thinking what the negroes were an hundred years ago, and what some of the strongest tendencies of the present, I look forward to the time—God alone in His infinite wisdom knows the coming of the day—when two races shall dwell together in our Southern land in peace, with mutual forbearance, confidence and regard. Each standing socially apart for the purity of the race, each finding the fullest liberty and the freest scope for every ambition and enjoyment within its own bosom. Each equal in opportunity for all that is worth having in life—possessing equal industrial, legal and political rights. The men in each voting not as a race, but as individual citizens for the true interest of a common country; the weak of either looking up in confidence to the strong of both; the strong of each going forward in loving sympathy to relieve the necessities of any.

That Arkansas legislator who is in duance ville because he offered a fellow member \$50 for his vote, is a living example of a fool and his money trying to part.—Chattanooga News.

## DECISION AS TO TAX ON COTTON

An Important Decision of the Supreme Court in the Case of Murdock and Watt vs. the Commissioners of Iredeil.

The Landmark stated recently that in the case of Murdock and Watt vs. the commissioners of Iredeil, concerning tax on certain cotton, the Supreme Court had reversed the judgment of the lower court and dismissed the proceeding. This was a copy of the judgment in this case was received by Clerk Hartness, of Iredeil Superior Court, and as the case is an important one The Landmark prints it for information.

Messrs. R. K. Murdock and N. P. Watt, cotton dealers of Statesville, had on hand in the spring of 1902 cotton valued at \$10,050. In May, 1902, they wrote to Mr. John Van Landingham, commission merchant of Charlotte, asking him to sell the cotton for them. He offered to make the sale for a certain commission and was accepted. On the 1st day of June, 1902, the cotton was still in a warehouse in Statesville, under the control of Murdock and Watt, and had not been sold by Mr. Van Landingham, although under the contract mentioned it was in his hands to sell. Now under the law "the value of cotton, tobacco or other property in the hands of commission merchants or agents in or out of the state" is a solvent credit, and in returning solvent credits "the amount of collectable debts owing by him." Well, when Murdock and Watt made their return of property on hand June 1st, 1902, they returned \$10,050 worth of cotton as a solvent credit and deducted therefrom \$10,800 of indebtedness, which of course left them due "less than nothing" in the way of tax on the cotton.

To this return the county commissioners demurred. The commissioners, under advice of counsel, held that the cotton, being in a warehouse in Statesville under control of Murdock and Watt, was not really "in the hands of" Mr. Van Landingham as a commission merchant, although he was authorized to sell it for a commission; and that therefore Murdock and Watt could not return the property as a solvent credit and deduct their indebtedness therefrom, but must list the cotton as other personal property and pay taxes accordingly.

After several hearings on the matter the commissioners ordered that the tax due on the cotton under their ruling—\$95.61—be collected, and Murdock and Watt paid the tax and appealed.

The case came up for a hearing before Judge Bryan at last February term of Iredeil superior court. Judge Bryan decided against the defendants—the commissioners—and they appealed. The opinion of the Supreme Court is written by Justice George H. Brown and is as follows:

His honor, Judge Bryan, instructed the jury upon the evidence to answer the issue "No," and gave judgment for plaintiffs for \$95.61, the amount of tax which the plaintiffs had paid. In this we think there was error.

1st. We are of opinion that the evidence failed to bring the transaction within the terms of the act of 1901, chapter 7, section 33. All the evidence, including that of the plaintiffs themselves, tended to prove that the cotton was not "in the hands of a commission merchant or agent in or out of the state," but was in the plaintiffs' own hands and possession and under their control and keeping; that on June 1, 1902, it was in their warehouse in Statesville, to which they had the keys. Therefore the value of the cotton in the hands of a commission merchant, under the facts in this case, could not very well be assessed as a solvent credit, and therefore the action of the board was legal.

2nd. The superior court had no jurisdiction to render the judgment set out in the record. It is true the case on appeal calls this proceeding a civil action, but the record discloses that it is not, as shown by the following extract: "The appellate board declined to accept the return as made by appellees, and ordered the clerk of its board to make out a receipt for taxes in conformity to corrected tax return, from which order the appellees appealed to the superior court in term. The following is the order of said board: 'Ordered, that the clerk of this board make out the tax receipt against Watt and Murdock for \$10,050, as corrected receipt for return of 1902.'"

"At the meeting of the board of commissioners in August the following appears of record: 'The question of taxes against Watt and Murdock, upon motion to reconsider; motion overruled, from which defendants give notice of an appeal.' Notice of appeal waived in open session."

It appears from the judgment of the superior court that the ad valorem tax of \$95.61 assessed upon the cotton was paid by plaintiffs, and the court rendered judgment in their favor against defendants for that sum. Although the point was not made, we felt it our duty to notice the defect of jurisdiction in the superior court to render the judgment. There is no statute with which we are acquainted, and none has been called to our attention, which gives the superior court jurisdiction to entertain such an appeal or proceeding as this, or to render a judgment in it against the defendants for the amount of the tax paid. If the plaintiffs paid this tax in obedience to the order of the board of commissioners, under protest, the proper remedy to test the legality of the tax is by an action brought in a court of justice of the peace to recover the amount paid. Then the superior court would have appellate jurisdiction. The proceeding is irregular. Let the judgment of the superior court be reversed, and this proceeding dismissed.—Statesville Landmark.

Morton Not to Leave Cabinet Before Fall.

Washington, May 12.—Secretary of the Navy Morton today stated that he had no present intention of resigning from the cabinet. He said however, that it was understood between the President and himself that he should leave the cabinet next fall.

## New Metal and Its Use.

A few weeks ago electrical engineers got wind of a new incandescent lamp hailing from Germany. Now, as a rule, no one ever raises an eyebrow at such an announcement, for reputed improvements on incandescent lamps are an old story, but the newcomer was unusual in that the light-giving filament was a plain metallic wire drawn from tantalum, an element of which most people had not even heard the name.

Tantalum is an element which has been known for more than half a century as a constituent of various rather uncommon minerals, but nobody knew it for anything more than a black powder which could be obtained without great difficulty, but was of no use after one had it. It has turned out, however, that when melted in vacuo, to overcome its unpleasant trick of absorbing nitrogen when hot, this black powder became a little ingot of real metal, which possessed very remarkable properties. Metallic tantalum is a bluish-white substance, a little darker in color than platinum, and about three-quarters as heavy for the same bulk. It is, for a metal, an unusually bad conductor of electricity, and has an extremely high melting point, both of these properties being invaluable for the purpose intended. Besides this, it can be hammered into sheets, and rolled or drawn into fine wire quite easily.

Its melting point is so high that it can be pushed to vivid incandescence that makes an ordinary lamp look yellow. By this same token, the light is produced at a high efficiency, so that for the same energy used the tantalum filament gives nearly double the light of a carbon filament. The former, by the way, increases its electrical resistance as it gets hotter, while the latter has its highest resistance when cold. The result is a very curious difference of appearance when a tantalum and a carbon lamp are turned on together. The latter takes a perceptible time to reach full brilliancy, while the former jumps to whiteness more quickly than the eye can follow it.—Louis Bell in Harper's Weekly.

## Woman with a History.

A well dressed and sharp-faced woman entered a lawyer's office and very shortly was standing by his table, says The Chicago Journal.

"I beg your pardon," she said to the lawyer, "but can you spare a few moments of your valuable time?" "I am very busy, madam," he replied, "but if you have anything of importance to communicate, I shall be glad to hear it. Pray be seated."

"Thank you—no," she said looking round in a nervous way at the clerks. "I am a woman with a history, and—"

"Excuse me," apologized the lawyer, "but you have thrown up your hands. Perhaps you had better step into my private office with me where we shall not be interrupted."

She thanked him and they went into the adjoining room. "Now," he said, when they were seated, "I presume you wish to consult me on this matter of your history?" "Yes, sir. That is why I am here."

"Very well—proceed. Anything you may say to me will be heard in the strictest confidence. You were saying you were a woman with a history?" "This story you have sympathetically, as an encouragement."

"Yes, sir," she began, as she laid a document before him. "It is a 'History of Napoleon Bonaparte' in eighteen monthly parts at \$2 a part, and—"

"The lawyer threw up his hands; but she had him, and he could not get away until he had run down his name. Now, when 'a woman with a history' is mentioned in his hearing, it causes a cold chill to run down his back."

## The Fat Drummer.

At a dinner given in New York in Walter Damrosch's honor, the musician said, according to the Buffalo Enquirer.

"The arts tend to spiritualize us." "How true that is," said Mr. Damrosch's neighbor. "Fat people, fat painters, fat musicians, fat dramatists, don't exist, do they?"

"I don't believe they do," said Mr. Damrosch. Then, smiling, he went on: "Did you ever hear of the Dubuque drummer who was discharged?"

"No, never," said the neighbor. "Well," began Mr. Damrosch, "there was a drummer in a Dubuque band who had drummed faithfully for over twenty years. He was never absent from his post of duty, he was never late or careless, and never in fortissimo passages, did he spare himself in his attacks upon his drum."

"Nevertheless, the leader of the band took his faithful servant aside one day and said: 'Brown, I'm sorry, but I shall have to discontinue your services.'"

"It seemed to the unfortunate drummer that the bright sunlight turned a gloomy black."

"Why?" he gasped. "The leader, a lean, aesthetic chap, frowned as he answered: 'Why? You ask me why? A man who has got so fat he can no longer hit the middle of the drum asks me why?'"

## Not an Abstainer.

Senator Sturgis, author of Maine's drastic legislation for the enforcement of prohibition, blandly admits that he is not a total abstainer. The disclosure is somewhat startling to those who believe that every man should be his own prohibitionist; or, at the very least, that no one not a teetotaler should try to keep others from getting a drink when they want it. There is a certain apparent inconsistency in the statesman's legislative and personal conduct, though it may not appear so to a Maine man. Voluntary total abstinence should be the standard of a professional prohibitionist and then the unregenerate would not scoff. However, Sturgis probably gets his by express, without violating the law.—Lowell Citizen.

"Speaking of absent-minded politeness," said Thos. W. Ross, of "Checkers" fame, the other night. "I once attended a murder trial with a prominent New Yorker who had a mania for such trials and for getting acquainted with the accused. He knew this one, and as the latter, after just being sentenced to be hanged on Friday the eighteenth of the month, was walking to his cell, my friend leaned forward and giving him a hand-shake said, 'Well, so long old chap; see you on the eighteenth.'—Exchange."

## IMPROVEMENTS ON A. &amp; N. C.

Heavy Rails Being Laid—New Bridges to be Constructed—Additions to the Passenger and Freight Equipment.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Goldsboro, N. C., May 13.—The Atlantic and North Carolina Company is going right ahead with improvements of its rolling stock and roadbed. The probabilities are that by the end of the two years much more than the \$300,000 stipulated in the lease will have been expended in improvements and betterments.

Though the present management has had the property less than a year 110 new freight cars have already been added to its equipment. Others are being built and by the middle of June the road's passenger equipment will be increased by nine new sixty foot passenger and express cars.

The work of relaying the entire line with heavier steel goes forward as rapidly as delivery of the rail is made by the mills. So far new 60-pound rail has been laid for a distance of over 12 miles, and is now in use. A sufficient quantity for 20 miles will be delivered within the next 60 days. This will practically complete the relaying of the track from New Bern to Kinston. Orders have been placed for new rail sufficient to relay the entire track from Goldsboro to Morehead City.

In order to accommodate the heavy trains made necessary by its increasing traffic, the present bridges across Neuse and Newport rivers are being replaced by heavier steel structures. The new bridges are of latest design and are of sufficient strength to carry any train. The Neuse river bridge will have three spans, 125 feet each in length, and will cost \$40,000. The Newport river bridge is 60 feet long and will cost about \$7,000. The contract for the bridges has been awarded to the American Bridge Company, of New York, and the contract for the stone work to Volvin & Davidson, Asheville, N. C. Contract calls for completion of the bridges not later than September 1st.

## YOUNG WOMAN IN JAIL.

Sentenced to Penitentiary for Robbery—Claims to be Daughter of R. J. Reynolds.

A young woman giving the name of Beatrice Langhorne, but claiming to be the daughter of R. J. Reynolds, the millionaire tobacco manufacturer of Winston-Salem, N. C., whom she declared, she is now suing for her share of her mother's estate of \$300,000, has been convicted here of robbery from the person and given one year in the Virginia penitentiary.

The girl says she is from Washington, D. C., where her lawyer is Campbell Carrington, of Washington.

The prisoners' victim was Hugh Thompson, of New York, chief gunner's yeoman, of the United States monitor Florida, who declares the woman robbed him of \$200.

Joseph Richardson, claiming to be the woman's husband, today employed Judge D. Tucker Brooks as counsel in an effort to get a new trial for the girl now in jail.

Beatrice Langhorne, who was sentenced to the penitentiary for a year here yesterday, said today that she is the daughter of R. J. Reynolds of Winston-Salem, the millionaire tobaccoist. She says she has a suit pending against him for her one-third of the \$300,000 independent estate of her mother. She said that Mr. Reynolds was recently married to his stenographer and that they were traveling in Europe, but she admitted that he denied the relationship she claims. She is well educated, intelligent and was handsome before she began the life she leads now. The robbery was committed in the woman's room in Church street, where Hugh Thompson, the gunner's mate on the monitor Florida, lost \$220 from a wallet in an inside pocket.

Mr. Reynolds and wife are in Rome enjoying the sights there.—Norfolk Dispatch.

## LOOMIS-BOWEN DISPUTE

Official Explanation of the Status of the Case—Bowen Called at the White House Yesterday.

Washington, May 15.—The formal trial of the issues between Acting Secretary Loomis and Minister Bowen began today when Mr. Bowen presented himself at the White House. The President suggested that Mr. Bowen call on Secretary Taft, which he did. The status of the case is officially explained as follows:

Saturday night Acting Secretary Loomis notified Secretary Taft that he had completed the preparation of his answer to the various allegations concerning himself, which had been transmitted to the secretary of state in the first place and later to the secretary of war by Minister Bowen. Minister Bowen has been careful to explain to Secretary Taft that these were not his charges; that he merely transmitted them for the information of the department. Sunday morning Mr. Loomis submitted his answer with accompanying documents bearing upon the subject. Secretary Taft went over these with care, then carried them to the White House, where he told the President of their contents and consulted with him as to the course to be pursued. It was then agreed that Secretary Taft should undertake to arrange the matter for presentation to the President. In other words, he should do all of the preliminary work of sifting out the evidence and preparing a synopsis for the President's consideration. So when Minister Bowen called upon Mr. Taft today the latter turned over to him Mr. Loomis' counter-charges against Minister Bowen, to the effect that he had instigated the circulation of unfounded reports against his superior officer, involving malfeasance in office. Mr. Bowen at once began preparation of a reply.

Miss Stockansbome—"I thought I saw the baron come in. Where is he?" Mr. Stockansbome—"He has just had an interview with me; and at present he is in the library to figure out whether he loves you or not."—Life.